

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

1. Amendments to Claims

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite that the facility information includes “**facility descriptions**,” as disclosed in Fig. 4, lines 20-25 on page 5, and lines 1-19 on page 6 of the original specification.

In addition, new claims 17-20 have been added to recite that the facility description might include the total number of **parking spaces**, the number of **vacant spaces**, and the **parking fee** if the facility is a **parking lot**, and the **working hours** if the facility is a **gas station**, as described in lines 10-15 on page 6 of the original specification.

Because the added “facility description” recitations are clearly supported by the original specification and drawings, as noted above, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments do not constitute “new matter.”

2. Rejection of Claims 1-16 Under 35 USC §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,430,498 (Maruyama) and 5,945,949 (Yun)

This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that the Maruyama and Yun patents each fails to disclose or suggest, whether considered individually or in any reasonable combination, a method of transferring facility information, or a control center that transfers facility information, in which:

- the facility information transferred includes not only the location of a particular facility, but also relevant “facility descriptions” are recited in claims 1 and 9;
- the facility information concerns the number of vacant spaces relative to the number of total spaces in a parking lot, as recited in claims 17 and 19; and

- the facility information concerns the working hours of a gas station, as recited in claims 18 and 20.

In contrast, the information supplied by the walking navigation terminal of Maruyama includes a list of facilities, and directions to the facilities, but not additional “facilities information,” as claimed. In addition to vacant parking spaces and gas station hours, the claimed system could, for example, provide lists of daily specials for restaurants in the area or theater show times. Furthermore, since the terminal of Maruyama is not vehicle mounted, there is no possible need for providing information on available parking spaces or gas station hours.

The Yun patent does not make up for the deficiencies of Maruyama since the Yun patent merely discloses location detection of a mobile base unit, and not the transfer of facility information to the base unit based on the detected position.

Since *neither* the Maruyama patent nor the Yun patent discloses the transfer of detailed facility descriptions of the type claimed, as opposed to merely locations of facilities, it is respectfully submitted that no combination of the two references could have suggested the claimed invention, and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 USC §103(a) is respectfully requested.

It is noted that col. 7, lines 62-64 does mention that “*The portable terminal can also be designed so as to display detailed information of each store in the list if the walker selects the store.*” While this passage arguably might suggest transfer of *a* single facility description, it does not suggest the claimed transfer since only a single description is transferred upon selection of a facility, as opposed to the claimed transfer of “descriptions of multiple facilities” When driving a vehicle, it would be extremely inconvenient to have to select a facility, hear or read a description, select another facility, hear or read another description, and so forth. The claimed transfer of multiple facility descriptions allows the user to compare facilities all at once. This

Serial Number 10/087,841

is especially important when the user is searching for a suitable parking lot or about to run out of gas.

Because the Maruyama and Yun patents fail to disclose transfer of multiple facilities descriptions to a base station based on a location of the base station, as recited in claims 1 and 9 (as well as claimed 2-8 and 10-16 dependent therefrom), or the specific facilities descriptions recited in claims 17-20, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Urcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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